



# FRANKLIN COUNTY PROFILE

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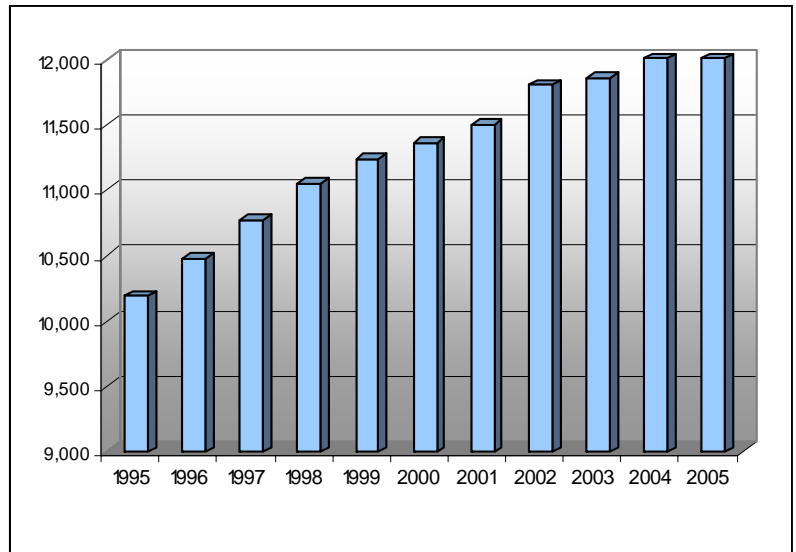
E-Mail: [sallen@cl.idaho.gov](mailto:sallen@cl.idaho.gov) — Labor Market Information website: [cl.idaho.gov/lmi](http://cl.idaho.gov/lmi)

## Population

Astonishing describes the population growth in beautiful Franklin County. Population grew 21.4 percent between 1995 and 2005 to 12,371. Franklin County, anchored on the Idaho/Utah border, is home to Franklin City, Idaho's first city. Its largest city, Preston, is the service and trade center for the county.

The county offers exciting fishing, abundant hunting, beautiful hiking trails, and many mountain and lake camp areas.

The county enjoyed population growth over the decade mainly because Utah residents jumped the border and took advantage of available land, affordable housing and the rural lifestyle Franklin County offers.



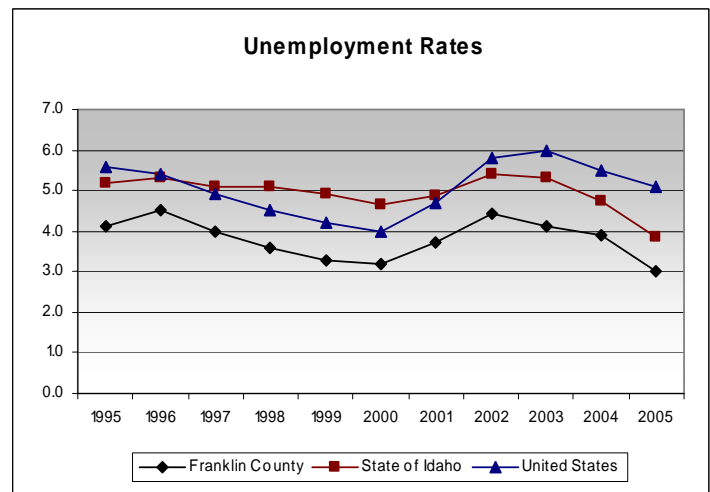
## Labor Force & Employment

Franklin County enjoys a diverse and highly skilled labor force with an excellent work ethic. The county enjoyed the lowest unemployment rate in Southeast Idaho in 2003 at 3 percent. The county suffered job losses when Del Monte closed its bean plant in 1996, but unemployment remained low at 4.5 percent.

Franklin County's location on the Idaho/Utah border provides labor force employment opportunities in nearby Logan, Utah. Brisk residential construction has added jobs in the county throughout the decade.

Franklin County's *Civilian Labor Force* grew 46.5 percent between 1995 and 2005. Ample employment opportunities, a unique lifestyle, and outstanding recreational opportunities kept Franklin County's labor force at home and enticed workers from other areas to relocate to the area. Employment grew 37.9 percent, creating jobs for most individuals who want to live and work in the Franklin County area.

The county's economy depends heavily on agriculture, but also enjoys a fairly diverse labor market fueled by



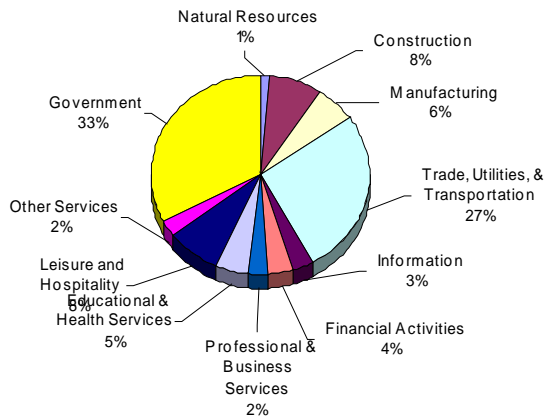
*Manufacturing, Retail Trade, and Services.* Nonfarm Payroll Job growth reached 40 percent by 2002, adding more than 700 new jobs in the last decade. Most job growth occurred in *Services, Trade, and Construction*. Construction and the opening of new businesses over the past ten years, along with staggering residential construction throughout the county, created service-sector and construction jobs.

Completion of Bear River Publishing's print plant in Preston's Industrial Park added approximately 40 jobs in 2000. Infrastructure improvements at Preston's Industrial Park should help recruit more businesses to the area.

Labor Force	May 2005	May 2006
Civilian Labor Force	6,101	6,119
Total Employment	5,860	5,916
Unemployed	241	203
Franklin County % Unemployed	4.0	3.3
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.9	3.4
U.S. % Unemployed	5.1	4.7

Labor Force	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Civilian Labor Force	4,276	4,566	4,528	4,664	4,645	5,213	5,510	5,696	5,880	5,925	6,265
Unemployment	175	206	179	166	155	167	205	253	241	231	189
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.1	4.5	4.0	3.6	3.3	3.2	3.7	4.4	4.1	3.9	3.0
Employment	4,101	4,360	4,349	4,498	4,490	5,046	5,305	5,443	5,639	5,694	6,076

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2004



## Major Employers

Big J's Pizza Village  
Franklin County Medical Center  
Freedom Plastics Inc.  
Lundahl Ironworks, Inc.  
Ritewood, Inc.  
Stokes Thriftway  
Trails West Manufacturing  
West Motor Company, Inc.

## Occupational Wages\*

## Starting Wages

Cashiers, Retail	\$5.92
Cooks	\$5.87
Food & Beverage Servers	\$5.74
Janitors	\$5.90
Laborers	\$6.38
Maids	\$5.89
Nurses, Registered	\$14.89
Office Clerks & Secretaries	\$6.85
Stock & Shipping Clerks	\$5.90
Teachers	\$30,000/yr.

\* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Commerce & Labor website at [cl.idaho.gov/lmi](http://cl.idaho.gov/lmi).

## Industry Employment & Wages

- Because of the large agricultural base in Franklin County, *Trade* and *Manufacturing* go hand in hand and provide 35 percent of all jobs in the county. The agricultural sector provides 7.0 percent of the jobs but, when combined with the other two industries, nearly half of the jobs are agricultural or agricultural-related.
- Government provides more than 30 percent of the jobs in Franklin County with 94 percent of the jobs in *Local Government*. Most of the jobs in *Local Government* are in the *Education* sector.
- Wages in Franklin County are lower than most of the state. The low wage is because of the large number of jobs in the *Trade*

and *Services* industries which often are entry -level, low wage jobs.

- Per capita personal income ranks 32nd in the state at \$21,235. This is 79 percent of the state per capita personal income level and 68 percent of the national level.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1994, 2003, & 2004	1994		2003		2004	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
<b>Total Covered Wages</b>	2,100	\$14,896	2,694	\$20,550	2,885	\$20,713
<b>Agriculture</b>	120	\$12,305	185	\$16,382	203	\$17,082
<b>Mining</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Construction</b>	48	\$13,407	205	\$23,444	211	\$23,295
<b>Manufacturing</b>	350	\$16,603	176	\$40,795	170	\$43,054
<b>Trade, Utilities, &amp; Transportation</b>	512	\$16,882	597	\$22,712	726	\$20,602
<b>Information</b>	34	\$11,660	92	\$16,386	92	\$16,189
<b>Financial Activities</b>	64	\$15,965	78	\$18,612	98	\$20,951
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	27	\$10,710	49	\$22,170	70	\$24,665
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	70	\$14,653	130	\$14,941	134	\$15,750
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	192	\$4,372	236	\$5,935	227	\$6,202
<b>Other Services</b>	38	\$7,589	54	\$13,477	50	\$13,169
<b>Government</b>	629	\$16,675	856	\$20,776	864	\$21,526

Per Capita Income	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Franklin County</b>	\$13,883	\$15,274	\$15,683	\$17,442	\$18,056	\$18,646	\$19,617	\$18,444	\$19,224	\$21,235
<b>State of Idaho</b>	\$18,707	\$19,426	\$20,248	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,075	\$25,185	\$25,330	\$26,877
<b>United States</b>	\$22,172	\$23,076	\$24,175	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,845	\$30,575	\$30,804	\$31,472

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:  
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